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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1942.

BY

JOHN REID GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

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STAVELEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Composed of the whole of the Members of the Council.

Councillor L. Whitton, J.P., Chairman.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health :

JOHN R. GRAHAM, M.B., Ch. B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

H. NUTTAIL, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

(Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods and Inspector
under Shops Acts ; Cleansing Superintendent).

Clerk :

MRS. D. S. WYER.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith present my Annual Report on the Health of the Urban District for the year 1942. As in the other war-time reports, many tables, etc., have to be omitted on instructions of the Ministry of Health.

The vital statistics are worthy of comment as they are the best presented in the short history of the Urban District. The birth rate has risen from 17.48 per 1,000 population in 1941, to 21.62 per 1,000. Along with this, the infantile mortality rate has shown a drop from 44.21 per 1,000 live births in 1941 to the phenominally low figure of 29.98 per 1,000.

The only figure to compare with this was in 1935, when an infantile mortality rate of 27.77 was recorded ; but this figure was based on 9 months statistics only.

The general death rate has risen from 8.58 per 1,000 to 9.62 per 1,000.

The general health of the district is good, and judging from the condition of the children one sees at clinics, the future outlook is good.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN R. GRAHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,

Lowgates,

Staveley.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The area of the District is 6,497 acres.

Population : 16,190.

The Rateable Value of the District is £76,782.

The sum represented by a penny rate is £290.

Live Births—				Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	...	...	323	169	154
Illegitimate	...	...	...	14	7	7
				<hr/> 337	<hr/> 176	<hr/> 161

Birth Rate.—21.62 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

Still Births—

Legitimate	...	...	...	11	3	8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	1	1
				<hr/> 13	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 9

Still Birth Rate.—79 per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

Deaths—				Total	Male	Female
				156	80	76

Death Rate.—9.62 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes—				Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still Births)	
No. 29.	Puerperal Sepsis	...		<hr/> Deaths	<hr/> Still Births)
No. 30.	Other Puerperal Causes			1	2.85
				<hr/> 1	<hr/> 2.85

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age

ALL infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	29.98
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	30.96
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	nil
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)			3

SCABIES ORDER, 1941.

A joint meeting of representatives from Clay Cross, Dronfield and Staveley Urban District Councils, and Chesterfield and Clowne Rural District Councils, held on 21st March, 1942, decided to act jointly in provision of a cleansing station, under the Scabies Order, 1941, and the Chesterfield Rural District Council were requested to undertake the administration of such a station.

An empty shop and house belonging to the Staveley Coal & Iron Co., which had been earmarked, was leased, as the erection of a new building was not possible. Although materials were difficult to obtain, thanks to the willing co-operation of the staff of the Staveley Co. Cottage Dept., and my colleagues on the Staveley Urban District Council, the adaption and decorations were completed by August, and the centre was open to receive patients on the 13th of that month. I take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Levick of the Staveley Co., and Mr. McGaw for their assistance.

Enclosed with this Report is a paper on the routine treatment of scabies carried out at the centre.

Scabies Treatment.

It is interesting to note (in view of the method described in the paper) the report I gave to the Committee in January, 1942.

In it, the provision of means of disinfecting clothing and bedding was set out as being necessary. Mellowby's researches subsequent to that date, clearly indicated that such articles played a minor part in the spread of Scabies, and, therefore, it was decided to carry out the technique as described, and there is no doubt from the results that the decision made has been amply justified. The important thing is to get whole households to attend for treatment.

The table below shows the number of cases treated from the 13th August to 31st December, 1942.

SCABIES TREATMENT CENTRE, POOLSBROOK.

Report from 14th August, 1942 to 31st December, 1942,
inclusive. 1,057 cases.

Scabies.	Adults	5-15 years	Under 5 yrs.	Totals
Chesterfield R.D.C. ...	202	231	105	538
Clay Cross U.D.C. ...	12	22	6	40
Clowne R.D.C. ...	89	98	25	212
Dronfield U.D.C.	17	13	5	35
Staveley U.D.C. ...	71	65	19	155
	391	429	160	980

Head Lice.	Adults	5-15 years	Under 5 years	Totals
Chesterfield R.D.C. ...	6(5)	25(19)	7(5)	38(29)
Clay Cross U.D.C. ...	—	—	—	—
Clowne R.D.C. ...	1	3(2)	—	4(2)
Dronfield U.D.C. ...	1(1)	2(2)	1(1)	4(4)
Staveley U.D.C. ...	—	4(3)	2(2)	6(5)
	8(6)	34(26)	10(8)	52(40)

Scabies with Head Lice.

Chesterfield R.D.C.	9(6)	78(44)	17(13)	104(63)
Clay Cross U.D.C.	2(2)	13(13)	1	16(15)
Clowne R.D.C.	4(2)	40(25)	3(3)	47(30)
Dronfield U.D.C.	—	3(3)	—	3(3)
Staveley U.D.C.	1	23(13)	2(2)	26(15)
	16(10)	157(98)	23(18)	196 (126)

Figures in brackets refer to cases in which live lice have been found.

INCIDENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Enteric Fever.

Again no cases were notified.

Diphtheria.

Eight cases were notified as against nineteen the previous year. One of the cases notified this year proved fatal.

Scarlet Fever

Seventy cases were notified in 1942 as against thirty-one the previous year.

Cerebro-spinal Fever.

Two cases were notified, both were fatal. Ten cases with four deaths were recorded in the previous year.

Measles.

Thirty-three cases were notified. There were no fatal cases.

Whooping Cough.

One case was notified.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

550 children received a complete course of treatment during the year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

(1) Nursing in the Home.

No nursing in the home is undertaken by the Urban District Council.

(2) Midwives.

Are under the supervision of the Derbyshire County Council.

(3) Laboratory Facilities.

All bacteriological work is done at the Bacteriological Department of the County Council at Derby. Chemical analysis is done by the County Analyst at Derby.

(4) Hospitals General.

Chesterfield Royal Hospital. Public Assistance Hospital, Chesterfield.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) **Infectious Diseases.**—Dronfield, Langwith, Mastin Moor, Morton, Penmore and Spital Hospitals have motor ambulances.

(b) **Non-Infectious Diseases.**—Motor ambulances are maintained by G. Rimmington, Staveley, and Bolsover Urban District Council.

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

County Clinic, Brimington Road, Chesterfield.—Tuberculosis School Clinics for minor ailments, and a Dental Clinic are carried on in this building. Infant Welfare and Pre-natal Clinics are held at Barrow Hill and Staveley.

The County Council provide treatment for venereal disease at the Royal Hospital, Chesterfield.

Water Samples.

The undermentioned water samples have been taken during the year.

TABLE 1.—WATER SAMPLES.

WARD.	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory.	Total.
Barrow Hill ...	2	2	—	2
Hollingwood ...	3	3	—	3
Middlecroft ...	5	5	—	5
Lowgates ...	6	6	—	6
Woodthorpe ...	3	3	—	3
Markham ...	5	5	—	5
	24	24	—	24

GENERAL.**Schools.**

The schools in the district have again been visited and inspected during the year

Bacteriological Examinations.

Table showing the number of specimens sent from the Urban District, and examined at the County Laboratory, Derby.

TABLE 1.

Enterica :

Bacteriological Examinations, 1942.

					Positive	Negative
Typhoid, Para Typhoid, A and B	...	...	...	...	—	6
Gaertner, Dysentery, etc.	...	...	...	...	—	9
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1	4
Phthisis	...	...	...	...	2	28
Milk for Tubercle Bacilli (Inoc Test.)						
Ministry of Agriculture (routine samples)					—	—
Milk for Methylene Blue Test (routine samples)	...	...	...	...	—	—
Milk for Bacterial Count. (routine samples)					—	—
Milk for Bacillus Coli (routine samples)	...				—	—
Water	...	...	...	...	—	—
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	5	25
Total					8	72

TABLE 2.— **OPHTHALMIA NEONATORIIUM.**

Notified	Cases Treated		Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	At home	In Hospital				
1	Yes	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE 3.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease.	Total No. Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	70	59	—
Diphtheria	8	8	1
Enteric Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever... ..	2	2	1
Pneumonia	22	—	2
Erysipelas	5	—	—
Polio-Myelitis	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	1
Undulant Fever	—	—	—
Measles	33	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	—

TABLE 4.—TUBERCULOSIS RETURN FOR 1942.

PERIODS.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and over	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 and over	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15 and over	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
20 and over	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
25 and over	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 and over	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
45 and over	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
55 and over	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	11	3	1	3	2	1	—	1

TABLE 5.

**CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE STAVELEY URBAN
DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1942.**

	Male	Female
All Causes	80	76
Typhoid Fevers, etc.	—	—
Measles	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
Influenza	1	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis	2	1
Other Tuberculosis Diseases	—	1
Syphilitic Diseases	1	—
Cancer	10	10
Diabetes	2	4
Intracran. vask. lesions	11	8
Heart Disease	7	15
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	4
Bronchitis	9	6
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	1
Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum	2	—
Diarrhoea, etc., (under 2 years)	3	—
Other Digestive Diseases	—	2
Appendicitis	1	—
Nephritis	1	2
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	—	1
Premature Birth	1	2
Congenital Causes, etc.	1	5
Suicide	1	—
Road Traffic Acc.	1	—
Other Violence	3	5
All other Causes	6	8

	Male	Female
Deaths of Infants under 1 year, including Illegitimate	4	6
Deaths of Illegitimate Infants	—	—
Births :—	Male	Female
Total	176	161
Legitimate	169	154
Illegitimate	7	7

TABLE 6.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS.

	Total	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 & over	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	71	—	1	2	5	6	23	24	8	1	—	1	—	68	—
Scarlet Fever	8	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	8	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—	1	3	1	1	1	—	4	—	1	—	2	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	22	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—
Pneumonia	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-myelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Undulant Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	33	1	2	1	3	10	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis:—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary—Male	11	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	4	2	—	11	2
Female	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	3	1
Non-Pulmonary—Male	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Female	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	3	1

HOUSING.

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

1. (a)	Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health of Housing Act)	186
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	274
2. (a)	Number of Dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	12
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	50
3.	Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation... ..	1
4.	Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	37

Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	24
--	----

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	11
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	11
(a)	By Owners	nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	11
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	149
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	96

(a) By Owners	... ..	74
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	... ..	nil
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	nil
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—		
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... ..	nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	... ..	nil

Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding.

It has not been possible to keep the cases under observation as one would have wished owing to other duties.

Two cases of overcrowding were dealt with and notices served, both cases were de-crowded.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR YEAR 1942.

	Number of Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector	Number of Notices served		Number of Nuisances abated with or without Notices
		Informal	Legal	
Closets and Ashpits :—				
Defective Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits ...	10	1	—	1
Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s	—	—	—	—
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C.'s	—	—	—	—
Conversion of Privies into Pail Closets	—	—	—	—
Defective Water Closets ...	40	9	—	20
Provision of Additional Water Closets	9	—	—	6
Provision of Portable Ashbins	110	37	—	160
Dirty Closets	—	—	—	—
Drainage—				
No disconnection of waste pipe	—	—	—	—
Defective Waste Pipe, Traps, Inlets, and Drains	27	9	—	10
Drains obstructed	25	6	—	25
Other Defects—				
Paving of Courts and Yards	36	—	11	16
Roofs, Eaves-spouts and Down Spouts	24	—	12	12
Sinks	10	—	4	10
Insufficient Ventilation ..	—	—	—	—
Windows	19	—	12	12
Dampness	54	9	12	25
Water in Cellars	30	—	12	18
Water Supply	14	4	—	9
Overcrowding	12	4	—	4
Foul Condition of Houses ..	8	2	—	2
Offensive Accumulations ..	—	—	—	—
Animals improperly kept ...	—	—	—	—
Pigsties	—	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	—	—	—	—
Urinals	16	2	—	4
Nuisances not specified above	175	35	—	46
TOTAL	419	118	64	390

Dairies and Cowsheds.

During the year some complaints have been received as to the keeping quality of the milk. These were investigated at the producers' premises and advice given as to the keeping clean of utensils and the cooling and storage of milk.

35 persons are registered as Producer Retailers, and 15 persons registered as retailers of milk, only 11 of these have their premises outside the Council area.

90 inspections have been made during the year and defects were found, 4 cases of these were abated satisfactorily.

	Number on Register	Inspections made	Notices served	Nuisances abated with or without Notice
Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops	50	90	4	4
Bakehouses	8	16	—	—
Slaughterhouses	3	240	—	—
Offensive Trades	1	3	—	—
Common Lodging Houses ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	62	349	4	4

Meat Inspection.

There are three registered Slaughterhouses in the area, but these are not being used owing to the meat being supplied by the Ministry of Food, through the Chesterfield abattoir.

The quality of the meat has been highly satisfactory.

Food condemned during the year and dealt with in accordance with the Ministry of Food Circular :—

Tinned foods	...	...	...	122 tins
Bacon	...	...	...	60' lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	36 lbs.

280 visits have been made to Meat Shops in the Area during the year.

Factories and Workshops.

26 visits have been made to Factories and Workshops in the area. No complaints have been received and no nuisances were noted.

Bakehouses.

10 visits have been made and all were found to be satisfactory.

Infectious Diseases.

Enquiries in all cases were made and defects and nuisances noted.

During the year 140 visits have been made and 20 rooms fumigated.

Shops.

210 visits to shops have been made during the year, no cases of breach of regulations were found and no action was found necessary.

Smoke Observations at Colliery Tips.

No observations have been taken during the year, as the works are mostly steel and iron works. Visits have been made to burning colliery tips. The district has suffered from atmospheric impurities from these tips.

Rag and Flock Acts, 1911 to 1928.

There are no premises in the district where rag or flock is manufactured or sold.

Bed Bugs.

Few complaints have been received, but tenants in six Council houses and three private houses were fumigated during the year with Thermatox Fumigators, and were found satisfactory on re-visits.

All Council houses are now inspected as they become vacated, and fumigation carried out if found necessary.

Closet Accommodation.

No conversions from earth closets to W.C.'s have been carried out during the year. 8 new W.C.'s have been erected for use of military personnel during the year.

The following are the approximate numbers of closets, ashpits and ashbins of each type in use at the end of the year 1942.

Number of Water Closets	...	...	...	4,217
„ „ Pail Closets	...	...	...	4
„ „ Privies	...	...	...	21
„ „ Ashbins	...	...	...	4,600
„ „ Dry Closets	...	...	...	5
„ „ Wet Ashpits	...	...	...	52

Cesspools.

There are still a number of cesspools in the area, these are situated where there is no sewer. 7 complaints have been received and dealt with.

Storage of Petroleum.

15 licences have been granted for storage tanks during the year.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

During the year, two new licences have been granted for living vans, there are now 5 vans being used as dwellings.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act.

During the year, two complaints were received, and visits were made. Squils and Liverpool Virus were laid.

During the year the local rat-catchers have regularly visited the Council refuse tips and farm buildings in the area.

The number of rats caught and reported was 360.

Salvage Collection and Disposal.

Collection of waste food by the Council is carried out twice weekly, by means of communal food bins. 360 of these are placed in various parts of the area.

The particulars given below are the results of salvage collected during the year ended March 31st.

	Tons	Cwts.	qrs	lbs.
Food	196	16	0	0
Tins	56	5	0	0
Iron	5	7	6	0
Rags	3	3	2	0
Rugs	8	7	0	0
Woollens	—	2	2	20
Aluminium	—	2	1	4
Brass	—	5	1	0
Copper	—	1	2	5
Lead	—	2	3	14
Broken Glass	12	0	1	0
Bones	2	16	0	0
Pewter	—	0	16	—
Bottles and Jars : 6.030 doz.	—	—	—	—
Paper	153	0	3	2
	438	11	3	5

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

I am pleased to say that this work has been carried out satisfactorily, with very few complaints. We have been fortunate that very few of our regular staff have been called away for other duties owing to their ages.

The service is kept going by three vehicles, namely :—

1. Fordson Refuse Collector, age 10 years.
2. Karrier C.K. Collector, age 3 years.
3. Karrier Bantam, age 1 year.

Very little trouble has been experienced in keeping these vehicles on the road during the year.

